

## Calendar

### Friday, December 9

**3:30 p.m.** Director's Coffee Break - 2nd Flr X-Over

**4:00 p.m.** Joint Experimental Theoretical Physics Seminar - 1 West  
 Speaker: S. Stone, Syracuse University  
 Title: Leptonic and Semileptonic D-Decays at CLEO-C

### Saturday, December 10

**8:00 p.m.** ['Tis Christmas Now](#) – 16th & 17th Century Holiday Music - Ramsey Auditorium

### Monday, December 12

**2:30 p.m.** Particle Astrophysics Seminar - Curia II  
 Speaker: I. Moskalenko, Stanford University  
 Title: Challenges in the Astrophysics of Cosmic Rays and Diffuse Gamma-Rays  
**3:30 p.m.** Director's Coffee Break - 2nd Flr X-Over  
**4:00 p.m.** All Experimenters' Meeting - Curia II  
 Special Topic: Proton Source Shutdown Plans

## Weather



Mostly Cloudy 21°/11°

[Extended Forecast](#)

[Weather at Fermilab](#)

## Current Security Status

[Secon Level 3](#)

## Donations Sought For Toys for Tots Program



To donate to Toys for Tots, drop your toys in the collection bin in the atrium of Wilson Hall, near the front entrance.

Go on, bring your toys to work. Just remember to drop them off in Wilson Hall before heading to the office. The annual Fermilab toy drive for the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program has begun. Lab employees can drop off new, unopened toys in the collection bin in the Wilson Hall Atrium through December 23.

"It helps the children in the community who are less fortunate," said former Fermilab employee Charisse Malo. "Without this, they would have nothing for Christmas." Malo accepted a severance package in September, but continues to coordinate the Fermilab drive she started two years ago. Both years, about 125 toys were collected, and Malo said this year's goal is to exceed that amount. Toys are needed for children from infancy through the age of 16. Popular items include board games, Hot Wheels, Barbie dolls, portable CD players for teens and gift cards, Malo said. The toys will be distributed to needy children in DuPage County.

## Director's Corner

### Open Communications

Yesterday afternoon, in the snow, a team from Fermilab hand-delivered a letter from me to all our neighbors in the Savannah Community just southwest of the laboratory. The letter informed them of a small tritium release from our site into



Pier Oddone

Indian Creek. The creek discharges into a pond in the center of the Savannah housing development. The levels detected are not an environmental or health concern since they are well below federal drinking water standards. No detectable levels were measured in Savannah's pond, a result that was expected since the flow from Indian Creek is very small.

The tritium in Indian Creek was discovered in mid-November in our regular environmental sampling program. In the last three weeks we have confirmed the measurement and taken many more measurements. We have understood how the water movement within the laboratory's ponds coupled with a leaky pipe could have led to this level of tritium in Indian Creek. While the levels are well below regulatory standards we want to make them as small as possible. We are taking measures to bring Indian Creek back to a level of tritium so low that it cannot be detected.

## Wilson Hall Cafe

### Friday, December 9

- Old Fashioned Ham & Bean
- Black & Blue Cheese Burger
- Summer Herb Cod
- Stuffed Manicotti
- Roasted Veggie & Provolone Panini
- Assorted Pizza Slice
- Vegetarian Stir Fry

The Wilson Hall Cafe accepts Visa, Master Card, Discover and American Express at Cash Register #1.

[Wilson Hall Cafe Menu](#)

## Chez Leon

### Wednesday, December 14

#### Christmas Lunch

- Spinach & Salmon Wellington w/White Wine Sauce
- Asparagus w/Lemon Zest
- Chocolate Raspberry Napoleon

### Thursday, December 15

#### Christmas Dinner

- Chestnut Soup w/Cognac Cream
- Lobster Medallions w/Champagne Sauce
- Sauteed Pea Pods
- Spaghetti Squash w/Green Onions
- Spinach & Pomegranate Salad
- Raspberry Parfaits w/Christmas Cookies

[Chez Leon Menu](#)

Call x4512 to make your reservation.

## Search

Search the Fermilab Today Archive

## Info

For more information, contact Debbie Ziomek at extension 4741.

—*Kendra Snyder*

## ILC NewsLine

### Universities Test Prototype Detectors for an ILC Muon System



The first prototype plane with the 64-element multi-anode PMT (MAPMT) attached to it and the second prototype plane with no PMT attached to it. If you look closely you can see the green light from the 64 fibers coming out of the housing on the second prototype. (Image courtesy of Bob Abrams.)

A group of universities in the United States are currently testing prototype detectors that could be used for a muon system in the International Linear Collider. With the help of some high school students from Quarknet, an educational program that brings students and teachers into the laboratories, the University of Notre Dame completed two of the eight large rectangular planes that make up the prototype detector this past summer. These planes are now undergoing tests and collecting cosmic ray data at Fermilab.

[Read More](#)

## In the News

The presence of tritium on our site is a normal result of accelerator operations. The major new source this year is the NuMI facility. Pumping from the NuMI tunnel brings tritiated water to the surface, protecting the underlying aquifer. It has always been our intent to contain the tritium from NuMI operations within the industrial cooling water system and the surface waters of the laboratory. We believe that leakage from these surface waters was feeding Indian Creek, and we have taken measures to mitigate the release.

Although we are addressing the problem, and although the tritium levels in Indian Creek were very small, we want Fermilab's operations to be completely transparent to you, our employees; to our community; our sponsors; and our government representatives. That is why we delivered 300 letters to our neighbors in the snow yesterday afternoon, and why the Director's Corner is coming to you a few days early this week.

We have created a [Website](#) where you can read our letter to the neighbors and find more information.

## Announcements

### Travel Office Holiday Schedule

Please note the Travel Office will be closed the following days for the Holidays: Dec 23, Dec 26, Dec 30 and Jan 2. Please make plans to pick up airline tickets and arrange travel on dates other than the above. The Travel Office staff wishes you all Happy Holidays!

### 2006 Charitable Giving Campaign

It's time again for the annual charitable giving appeal. You may select any IRS approved charity and designate a

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Send comments and suggestions to  
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## From *The New York Times*, December 7, 2005: Report Says States Aim Low in Science Classes

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7 - Nearly half the states are doing a poor job of setting high academic standards for science in public schools, according to a new report that examined science in anticipation of 2007, when states will be required to administer tests in the subject under President Bush's signature education law.

The report, released Wednesday by the Thomas B. Fordham Institute, suggests that the focus on reading and math as required subjects for testing under the federal law, No Child Left Behind, has turned attention away from science, contributing to a failure of American children to stay competitive in science with their counterparts abroad.

The report also appears to support concerns raised by a growing number of university officials and corporate executives, who say that the failure to produce students well-prepared in science is undermining the country's production of scientists and engineers and putting the nation's economic future in jeopardy.

[Read More \(Registration Required\)](#)

minimum payroll deduction of \$52 per year. Our larger community benefits greatly for every dollar you give. The form is available [online](#).

### Recreation Office Sale

Find it difficult to get to the 15th floor to purchase an Entertainment Book? We will be selling Entertainment Books at a table in the Atrium Wednesday, December 14 until Friday, December 16 from noon to 1:00 PM or until we run out. The cost of the books is \$25.00. Use 2 or 3 of the special values and the book pays for itself. We will also have Recreation T-shirts on sale for \$6.00 ea. Payment by cash, check, Visa or MasterCard accepted. Remember that Friday, December 16, will be your last chance to purchase Entertainment Books.

### NALWO's Winter Holiday Tea

[NALWO's](#) Winter Holiday Tea will be hosted by Barbara Oddone at her home, on the Fermilab site, on Monday, December 12, from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Fermilab IDs are no longer required to enter the lab, but you will need photo identification. You can enter the Fermilab site through the Wilson Street entrance (from Kirk Road) and ask the guard for directions. Please bring a favorite dessert or appetizer from your country, but if you cannot bring a treat, please come anyway! For additional information contact Susan Kayser at [sukayser@fnal.gov](mailto:sukayser@fnal.gov), Rose Moore, at [rosecraigmoore@comcast.net](mailto:rosecraigmoore@comcast.net), 630/208-9309 or the Housing Office, 630/840-3777 or [housing@fnal.gov](mailto:housing@fnal.gov).

### New Classifieds on Fermilab Today

New [classified ads](#) have been posted on Fermilab Today.

[Upcoming Activities](#)